

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A buckle comprising:

a female body formed with a flat housing; and

a male body having flexible insertion legs, the female body and the male body
being ~~which are~~ engaged with each other by insertion,

each of the female body and the male body having

a front surface,

a rear surface, ~~and~~

right and left side faces, and

~~having~~ first butting portions including first straight portions and a concave portion or a convex portion, the concave portion or the convex portion being ~~which are~~ formed on at least one surface of the front and rear surfaces of the female body or the male body; and

second butting portions including second straight portions, which are formed on the right and left side faces and are continuous to the first straight portions of ~~said the first~~ butting portions ~~including the straight portions and the concave portion or the convex portion,~~ and including at least one of a third straight portion, which is formed on the other surface of the front and rear surfaces and is continuous to the straight portions formed on the right and left side faces, when the female body engages with the male body,

wherein the concave portion or the convex portion is formed at a center of the first butting portions while sandwiched by the first straight portions, the convex portion in the first butting portions protrudes between the flexible insertion legs in a trapezoidal form in which a front end is slightly narrowed, while the concave portion is concavely dented between where the flexible insertion legs are inserted in the trapezoidal form with the inlet expanded,

~~peripheral corners~~ peripheries of the concave portion or the convex portion and the first straight portions on the at least one surface of the front and rear surfaces being continuous with each other ~~from the concave portion or the convex portion formed at the center of the female body or the male body and peripheral corners~~

peripheries of the second straight portions on the right and left side faces are notched so as to form a one level lower stepped portion, which is capable of being fitted into the second butting portion of the female body or the male body in a manner of overlapping,

~~the female body and the male body are thereby formed closely in contact at the butting portions,~~

a guide member is protruded linearly from a center of a front end of the concave portion or the convex portion of the male body, and

partition pieces for guiding the guide member on a same line as an axis line of the guide member are provided on an inner surface of the housing of the female body.

Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (currently amended). The buckle according to claim 1, wherein the first butting portions comprising the first straight portions and the concave portion or the convex portion are formed on both front and rear surfaces of the female body and the male body.

Claim 4 (currently amended). The buckle according to claim 1, wherein the first butting portions comprising the first straight portions and the concave portions or the convex portion are formed on one surface of the female body and the male body, and on the opposite surface, linear-form butting portions are formed.

Claims 5-6 (cancelled).

Claim 7 (currently amended). The buckle according to claim 1, wherein the first butting portion of the female body is formed by the first straight portions and the concave portion and the first butting portion of the male body is formed by the first straight portions and the convex portion.

Claim 8 (currently amended). The buckle according to claim 1, wherein the first butting portion of the female body is formed by the first straight portions and the convex portion and the first butting portion of the male body is formed by the first straight portions and the concave portion.

Claim 9 (cancelled).

Claim 10 (original). The buckle according to claim 8, wherein the concave portion provided at the center of the male body is formed concavely up to a belt through hole, while the convex portion of the female body is extended to the belt through hole.

Claim 11 (previously amended). The buckle according to claim 8, characterized in that the concave portion disposed at the center of the male body is formed concavely up to the belt through hole, while the convex portion of the upper plate of the female body is extended to a top surface of the belt through hole or a top surface of a hooking rod.

Claim 12 (cancelled).